

Module Specification

Module Title: Professional Studies 1 – Working in the Arts

Module code:	TBC	NQF level:	Level 4
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Musical Theatre		

Module overview

In the first semester students will be introduced to a number of theatre practitioners who work across the theatre industry. Within these sessions they will discuss the routes taken towards this work, as well as how the role interacts with the role of the performer. In these sessions the practitioner is also encouraged to reflect on their training and give examples of how they developed as part of their own reflection.

In the second semester students will look at a variety of methods to record and reflect on their practical studies. These findings will culminate in creating online 'actor in training' portfolios using Mahara. In weekly sessions students will look at examples of online portfolio material as well as have sessions with the LCoM TEL team.

Aims

It is recognised that all theatre students need to be equipped with skills that maximise employability. Working in the Creative Industries is a module that supports the programme's professional studies strand, and is designed to orientate the students with opportunities presented within the creative industries along with important skill sets that can be applied to further study.

This module looks to introduce students to the various roles involved in the theatre with a series of short masterclass lectures delivered by people working in these various roles across the industry. These classes should also act as inspiration for students beginning their study who are looking for wider application of the practical skills developed as part of the programme.

Throughout the module students are also encouraged to identify their personal strength and weaknesses in regards to their training and develop online portfolios of their progress throughout the year including recordings and written accounts. These portfolios are intended to form the basis of public online profiles in Year 2 and beyond.

The module aims to:

1. Introduce the student to the professional framework and mechanisms of the Arts.
2. Introduce students to the various roles within the theatre industry.
3. Support the realisation of online portfolios exploring students training development.
4. Develop the students understanding of vocational training and see themselves as key to their personal practical development.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Understand the various roles available within the theatre industry.
2. Research and evaluate current theatre industry practices and practitioners and communicate this research reliably and accurately.
3. Identify personal strengths and weaknesses in relation to continued performance training.
4. Create material for online profiles which documents and reflects on students training.

Learning and teaching methods

Lectures. Students will explore these skills in large lecture-style sessions. The material provide will be relevant to all pathways and therefore bringing all groups together means all students can benefit from the masterclass session. It is anticipated that students will receive further support through the TEL team and individual tutorial sessions.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	30 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	170 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will receive formative assessment of their progress through the lecture series.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Theatre Case Study	1000 words	50%	1, 2
Mahara Portfolio	3000 words	50%	3, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Theatre Case Study	1000 words	50%	1, 2
Mahara Portfolio	3000 words	50%	3, 4

Indicative Reading List

- Burt, N. (2013). *Acting: Cut the Crap, Cue the Truth*. London: Oberon Books Limited.
- Henry, M. (2008). *How to be a working actor the insider's guide to finding jobs in theater, film, and television*. England: Back Stage Books.
- Nyman, A. (2012). *Golden Rules of Acting*. London: Nick Hern Books.
- Volz, J. (2010). *How to Run a Theatre*. London: Bloomsbury.

Additional resources will be introduced depending on theatre companies observed as part of the module and students choice for analysis.